

TESTIMONY ON THE SUSAN B. ANTHONY COIN BEFORE THE HOUSE BANKING, FINANCE  
AND URBAN AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE ON COINAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Rep. Patricia Schroeder

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to testify today on the proposed Susan B. Anthony coin.

I think it's great that the Administration wants to place a woman's face on the proposed dollar coin. However, I don't think the choice of the mythical figure "Miss Liberty" is an appropriate figure to symbolize American womankind, just as I don't think Uncle Sam and Father Time are appropriate figures to represent American mankind. If the new dollar coin is adopted, I think it should honor a real honest-to-goodness American woman.

Many American women could qualify for the honor of gracing a circulating coin-- Amelia Earhart, Helen Keller, Eleanor Roosevelt, Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Tubman, and Betsy Ross, to name a few. Choosing the mythical figure "Miss Liberty" instead of one of these great American women solely to avoid controversy is a disgrace to American women. I can't recall an instance where a male mythical figure was chosen instead of a real American man to be featured on a circulating coin solely to avoid opening up "a can of worms"--Kennedy, Roosevelt, and Eisenhower made it over Uncle Sam, Father Time, and Neptune.

I have cosponsored Ms. Oakar's bill to place Susan B. Anthony on the proposed dollar coin. Miss Anthony has made a contribution which affects American women of all races, creeds, and socio-economic backgrounds--the right to vote. Her efforts and determination were largely responsible for the passage of the 19th Amendment. The 42 year struggle began in 1878, but universal suffrage didn't become law until 1920, 14 years after Miss Anthony died. Miss Anthony's struggle will benefit generations of American women.

The Oakar-Schroeder bill is supported by the League of Women Voters, the National Organization of Women (NOW), and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). That's quite a spectrum.

I urge the subcommittee to commemorate the American woman's contributions, determination, and spirit by placing Susan B. Anthony on the proposed dollar coin.

S on Leach - ok  
 If feasible -  
 may be problems w/ prod + designing  
 Not saying S is imp than turbine -

L - 6 - no delay doesn't seem necessary -  
 JKH out in Feb 1984  
 Technology, think can coin 2-headed  
 forcer.  
 Does not reflect well on leadership  
 Not wanting to take stand  
 That Appropriate open-mindedness

J - sure it can be done

F - do have visions of  
 1-2-3  
 S - do you relate to them?  
 F - Took that illustration  
 to make me realize we  
 should reconsider rec.  
 of T.

Why can we put a buffalo  
 on a coin + not a real woman?  
 just don't think Miss L appropriate

Like pulling } Uncle Sam } for a man  
 Fr. Time }  
 Neptune }

Wherever put male, no one hesitates  
 to "open up can of worms." -  
 suddenly that was w/ woman

Why Susan? Long list of people -

In past - usually, pres -  
 At least, woman who made it  
 possible to give women the vote  
 just don't have competitors in present;  
 do have person who helped give  
 us the right to vote